

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Claims 1 through 42 (canceled)

43. (new) A method of promoting intellectual property over the Internet communications network, the method comprising:

providing a host computer station connected to said network and having at least one database accessible over said network, the at least one database including a plurality of intellectual property items and a description of each intellectual property item;

accessing said database through said network and selecting one of said intellectual property items by plural consumer computer stations connected to said network;

accessing the description associated with said selected intellectual property item from said consumer stations;

sending survey information of said selected intellectual property item from said consumer stations to said host station by way of said network, said survey information being based at least in part on the description of said selected intellectual property item, said survey information including information reflective of consumers' desires to purchase said selected intellectual property item;

summing said survey information from said consumer stations for said selected intellectual property item; and

accessing said survey information from an industry computer station connected to said network to thereby determine a level of consumer interest in said selected intellectual property item based on said survey information.

44. (new) The method of promoting intellectual property according to claim 43, including the step of:

providing an incentive to a consumer at any one of said consumer stations for sending said survey information.

45. (new) The method of promoting intellectual property according to claim 44, wherein:

said incentive is chosen from a group consisting of currency, coupons, discounts, products, and services.

46. (new) The method of promoting intellectual property according to claim 43, including the step of:

searching a desired grouping of intellectual property items having at least one common feature prior to selecting said selected intellectual property item wherein said at least one common feature is one of a Standard Industrial Classification code and a North American Industry Classification System code.

47. (new) The method of promoting intellectual property according to claim 43, and further comprising:

sending from a customer computer station connected to said network to said host station intellectual property data representative of a customer intellectual property item, said intellectual property data being included in said at least one database and comprising at least a description of said customer intellectual property item; and

displaying at least said description of said customer intellectual property item at said host station for view by a consumer at one of said consumer stations and by one or more of said industry stations upon selection of said customer intellectual property item.

48. (new) The method of promoting intellectual property according to claim 47, wherein:

    said host station includes a site on said network and each of said consumer stations, each of said industry stations, and said customer station includes a processor-based workstation remote from said site on said network and connectable thereto for accessing said at least one database.

49. (new) The method of promoting intellectual property according to claim 48, wherein:

    said survey information is accessible at said site by way of said network by only said customer station and said industry stations, respectively.

50. (new) The method of promoting intellectual property according to claim 48, wherein:

    said at least one database further comprises at least one confidential information item for said selected intellectual property item.

51. (new) The method of promoting intellectual property according to claim 50, wherein:

    said at least one confidential information item is viewable only by said customer station and by said industry stations, respectively.

52. (new) The method of promoting intellectual property according to claim 43, wherein:

    said description of each intellectual property item includes at least one general information item viewable by at least said consumer stations and at least one confidential information item viewable by said industry stations but not by said consumer stations.

53. (new) The method of promoting intellectual property according to claim 52, including the step of:

selectively releasing said at least one confidential information item at said host station for view by said consumer stations.

54. (new) A system for promotion of intellectual property over the Internet communications network, the system comprising:

a host computer station connected to said network and having at least one database including a plurality of intellectual property items and a description of each intellectual property item;

a computer program module for selecting one of said intellectual property items by plural consumer computer stations and plural industry computer stations connected to said network, respectively;

a computer program module for accessing said description associated with said selected intellectual property item from said consumer stations and said industry stations;

a computer program module for sending feedback data from said consumer stations to said host station, said feedback data including consumer survey information of said selected intellectual property item based at least in part on said description of said selected intellectual property item;

a computer program module for summing said survey information from said consumer stations for said selected intellectual property item wherein said survey information includes information reflective of consumers' desires to purchase said selected intellectual property item; and

a computer program module for accessing said feedback data by said industry stations connected to said network to thereby determine the degree of consumer interest

in said selected intellectual property item based on said consumer survey information.

55. (new) The system for promoting intellectual property according to claim 54, including:

a computer program module for providing an incentive to consumers at said consumer stations for sending said feedback data and chosen from a group consisting of currency, coupons, discounts, products, and services.

56. (new) The system for promoting intellectual property according to claim 54, including:

a computer program module for searching a desired grouping of intellectual property items having at least one common feature prior to selecting said at least one intellectual property item.

57. (new) The system for promoting intellectual property according to claim 56, wherein:

said program module for searching provides said at least one common feature to be one of a Standard Industrial Classification code and a North American Industry Classification System code.

58. (new) The system for promoting intellectual property according to claim 54, and further comprising:

a computer program module for sending from a customer computer station connected to said network to said host station intellectual property data representative of an intellectual property item held by a customer at said customer station, said intellectual property data being included in said at least one database and comprising at least a description of said customer held intellectual property item; and

a computer program module for displaying at least said description of said customer held intellectual property item at said host station for view by said consumer stations and said industry stations, respectively.

59. (new) The system for promoting intellectual property according to claim 58, wherein:

said program module for accessing said feedback data at said host station is operable to provide said feedback data to only said customer stations and said industry stations, respectively.

60. (new) The system for promoting intellectual property according to claim 58, wherein:

said at least one database further includes at least one confidential information item for said intellectual property items, respectively.

61. (new) The system for promoting intellectual property according to claim 60, including:

a computer program module operable to provide said one confidential information item to be viewable only by said customer station and by said industry stations.

62. (new) The system for promoting intellectual property according to claim 61, including:

a computer program module for selectively releasing, from said customer station, the at least one confidential information item for view by a consumer station.

63. (new) The system for promoting intellectual property according to claim 54, wherein:

said description of each intellectual property item includes at least one general information item viewable by

said consumer stations and at least one confidential information item viewable by said industry stations.

64. (new) The system for promoting intellectual property according to claim 63, including:

a computer program module for selectively releasing said at least one confidential information item at said host station for view by said consumer stations.